Will Epperson

I'm a Ph.D. student in the HCII at CMU advised by Dominik Moritz and Adam Perer.

My research interests lie in **developing ways to make complex systems easier to use and understand for experts and non-experts**. I am interested in how we can build tools to help users interact with their data through understandable Machine Learning, interactive visualizations, and reccomended analysis. I'm also interested in how these techniques can be applied to the medical domain to improve both doctor and patient experiences.

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Education

August 2020 - Present

Ph.D. in Human Computer Interaction
Carnegie Mellon University
Advisor: Dominik Moritz, Co-advisor: Adam Perer

August 2016 — May 2020

B.S. in Computer Science
Georgia Institute of Technology
GPA: 4.0, Summa Cum Laude, threads in Intelligence and Modeling/Simulation

Publications

FairVis: Visual Analytics for Discovering Intersectional Bias in Machine Learning
Angel Cabrera, Will Epperson, Fred Hohman, Minsuk Kahng, Jamie Morgenstern, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau
IEEE Conference on Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST). Vancouver, Canada, 2019.
🔗 Project ▶ Demo 📄 PDF ▤ Blog 🎥 Recording ▭ Slides </> Code ▤ BibTeX

RECAST: Interactive Auditing of Automatic Toxicity Detection Models
Austin P. Wright, Omar Shaikh, Haekyu Park, Will Epperson, Muhammed Ahmed, Stephane Pinel, Diyi Yang, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau
The eighth International Workshop of Chinese CHI. 2020.
🔗 Project 📄 PDF ▤ BibTeX

Talks

FairVis

May 2019

IEEE Visualization Conference

Honors and Awards

2019

PURA: President's Undergraduate Research Award
$1500 research grant to continue work on FairVis project

2016

Stamps President's Scholarship
Full ride scholarship given to 40 incoming freshman at Georgia Tech

Research Experience

January 2019 - May 2020

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Undergraduate Researcher, Polo Club of Data Science
Advisor: Duen Horng (Polo) Chau
Member of the Polo Club of Data Science working on novel data visulizations to find fairness
issues in Machine Learning models

January 2018 - May 2019

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Undergraduate Researcher, Automated Algorithm Design
Advisor: Jason Zutty, Greg Rohling
Worked on EMADE algorithm design engine to implement sentiment analysis pipeline to analyze
news articles to aid in predicting stock price movements using genetic algorithms. Led project to
visualize the genetic algorithm evolution process.

Industry Experience

Summer 2019

Point72 Asset Management, New York, NY
Data Analytics Intern, Market Intelligence Group
Mentor: Trevor Rempel
Worked as Data Scientist in alternative data space to clean, model, and understand large
datasets

Summer 2018

Ultimate Software, Weston, FL
Software Development Intern, Innovation Strategies Team
Mentor: Joseph Cutrono
Designed and developed Slack app to integrate with the UltiPro HR management tool. App
published to Slack app store.

Teaching

August 2017 - December 2018

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Intro to Database Systems (CS 4400), Instructor: Monica Sweat
Designed projects, held office hours and graded for relational databases class.

Leadership & Activities

January 2019 - May 2020

Student Ambassador
Georgia Institute of Technology Alumni Association
Serve as official representative of the Institute at events/tours for alumni, prospective students,
and special guests.

January 2018 - May 2019

Executive Board Member -- Threads Co-chair
Stamps Scholars National Convention 2019
Executive board member of Stamps Scholars National Convention, a 3-day conference with over
700 student attendees. Responsible for 20-person committee that plans and coordinates the
different content threads of the convention.